

Message Text

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20

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 STR-04 FEA-01 AGR-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

OMB-01 /101 W

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FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 489

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 7219

PASS STR

H PASS CODEL

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD GATT

SUBJ: QR CONSULTATIONS WITH IRAN

REF: A. MTN GENEVA 6956; B. STATE 098306

1. THE FOLLOWING LETTER WAS RECEIVED SEPTEMBER 18 FROM IRANIAN MISSION:

QUOTE WITH REFERENCE TO OUR LETTER NO. 1118 OF 30 JULY 1975, CONCERNING EVENTUAL CONSULTATIONS ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS MEASURES APPLIED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN, I WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT THE TRADE ACT RECENTLY PASSED IN THE UNITED STATES EXCLUDES MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES FROM THE SYSTEM OF PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS AND CONCESSIONS APPLIED TO ALL OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WHICH IS, IN FACT, A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEASURE OF A DISCRIMINATORY NATURE. THE QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS

IMPOSED BY THE IMPORT-EXPORT REGULATIONS OF IRAN ON SOME OF THE UNITED STATES' AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS APPLY TO ALL COUNTRIES ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY AND IMPARTIAL BASIS.

NEVERTHELESS, THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN WOULD BE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE CONSULTATIONS ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS MEASURES IF THE DISCRIMINATORY CLAUSES INCORPORATED IN THE TRADE ACT COULD BE REVISED IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO EXTEND TO IRAN THE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT CURRENTLY ACCORDED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE

2. REFERENCED LETTER WAS IRANIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF U.S. NOTIFICATION.

3. SUGGEST RESPONSE SIMILAR TO THAT GIVEN TO BRAZILAINS IN REF-TEL B AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: I REFER TO YOUR LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 17 CONCERNING THE U.S. REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS MAINTAINED BY YOUR COUNTRY.

THIS DELEGATION REGRETS THAT THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT IS NOT PREPARED AT THIS TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN CONSULTATIONS OR DISCUSSIONS ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS. AT THE NON-TARIFF MEASURES SUBGROUP MEETING ON QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS OF APRIL 22-30, 1975, IT WAS AGREED (MTN/NTM/2) INTER ALIA, THAT: "AS AN INITIAL STEP TOWARDS THE WORKING OUT OF SOLUTIONS, A PROCESS OF INFORMATION, EXAMINATION AND DIALOGUE SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITH RESPECT TO EXISTING QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS. . . THIS PROCESS OF INFORMATION, EXAMINATION AND DIALOGUE WOULD TAKE PLACE THROUGH DETAILED BILATERAL OR PLURILATERAL CONSULTATIONS OR DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES MAINTAINING RESTRICTIONS AND COUNTRIES NOTIFYING A DIRECT TRADE INTEREST IN THESE RESTRICTIONS THROUGH THE SECRETARIAT."

WE BELIEVE THAT OUR REQUEST OF IRAN TO INITIATE THE ABOVE PROCEDURE IS CONSISTENT WITH THIS AGREEMENT AND THAT THE PROPOSED DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST. THE ISSUE OF GSP RAISED IN YOUR LETTER IS UNRELATED TO THIS PROCESS OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE.

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IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE PROCESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUES APACE FOR ALL CONCERNED, THIS DELEGATION URGES YOUR GOVERNMENT TO RECONSIDER YOUR UNWILLINGNESS TO INITIATE CONSULTATIONS AT THIS TIME. UNQUOTE.

4. PLEASE ADVISE ON PROPOSED RESPONSE.WALKER

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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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